Appl. No. : 10/009,792
Filed : December 13, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A recombinant plasmid vector which comprises:

a kanamycin resistance gene;

a promoter;

an endoxylanase signal sequence;

a nucleotide sequence coding for an oligopeptide consisting of 13 amino acids including 6 consecutive histidine residues; and,

a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor (hG-CSF) gene.

2. (Currently amended) The recombinant plasmid vector of claim 1, wherein the oligopeptide has an amino acid sequence of isoleucine-glutamic acid-glycine-arginine (Ile-Glu-Gly-Arg; SEQ ID NO: 28); ~~from residue 10-13 of SEQ ID NO: 1) at the C-terminus~~.

3. (Original) A recombinant plasmid vector, pTHKCSFmII represented in Figure 13 which comprises:

a kanamycin resistance gene;

a Trc promoter;

an endoxylanase signal sequence derived from *Bacillus sp.*;

a nucleotide sequence coding for an oligopeptide of SEQ ID NO: 1; and,

a modified gene coding for a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor(hG-CSF), which includes a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 26 at the N-terminus.

4. (Original) A microorganism, *E. coli* transformed with the plasmid vector, pTHKCSFmII of claim 3.

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5. (Original) The microorganism of claim 4, wherein the *E. coli* is selected from the group consisting of *E. coli* XL1-Blue, *E. coli* MC4100, *E. coli* BL21 (DE3), *E. coli* HB101 and *E. coli* W3110.

6. (Original) E. coli MC4100/pTHKCSFmII (KCTC 0754BP) transformed with the plasmid vector, pTHKCSFmII of claim 3.

7. (Original) A process for preparing a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor, which comprises the steps of:

culturing *E. coli* transformed with the plasmid vector of claim 1 to obtain a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor fusion protein; and,

treating the human granulocyte colony stimulating factor fusion protein with a protease to obtain a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor.

8. (Original) The process for preparing a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor of claim 7, wherein the plasmid vector of claim 1 is pTHKCSFmII.

9. (Original) The process for preparing a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor of claim 7, wherein the human granulocyte colony stimulating factor fusion protein is obtained from the culture by employing Ni-column.

10. (Original) The process for preparing a human granulocyte colony stimulating factor of claim 7, wherein the protease is Factor Xa.

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